AMAZING FANTASY

STARRING

SPIDER-MAN®

#18

MARVEL comics

It all began in AMAZING FANTASY #15, as a teenage boy gained amazing powers and learned a hard lesson about sacrifice and heroism. And it continued in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1, as that young man embarked on an uninterrupted string of adventures that would make him one of the most famous super-heroes in the world.

Now, at long last, we reveal what happened between those two landmark issues — how that frightened young boy took his first steps into a world of the fantastic and the bizarre, found his rightful place in it and became the hero we know so well...

STAN LEE Proudly Presents

AMAZING FANTASY #18

"THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN"

KURT BUSIEK
Writer

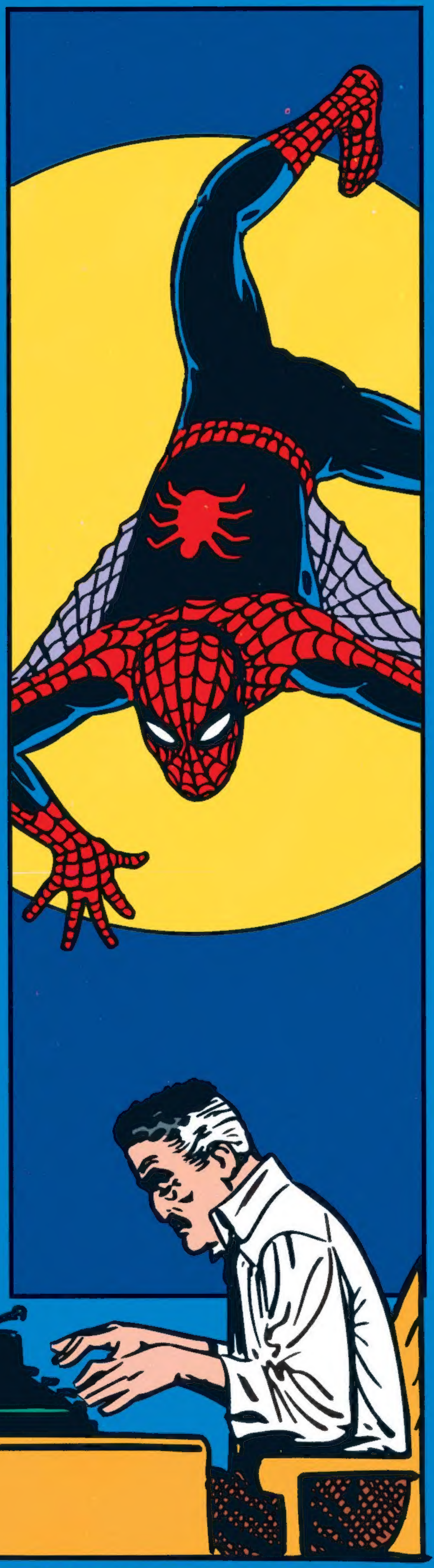
PAUL LEE
Painter

RICHARD STARKINGS AND COMICRAFT
Publication Design & Lettering

SARRA MOSSOFF
Editor

BOB BUDIANSKY
Editor in Chief

STEVE ALEXANDROV
Manufacturing Coordinator



© 2019 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

I'm not a SUPER HERO.

I'm NOT.

ARE YOU KIDDING?

LOOK HOW SPIDEY NABBED THE *MYSTERY VANDAL!* DID THE F.F. DO THAT? DID *ANT-MAN?*

SPIDEY'S THE *BEST* SUPER HERO OUT THERE!

Okay, so I got bitten by a *RADIOACTIVE SPIDER* and got the proportionate *POWERS* of a spider --

-- but I was *ALSO* responible for letting a burglar *KILL* my Uncle Ben --

A SUPER HERO wouldn't have let that happen.

Okay, since then I *CAUGHT* the burglar -- *AND* the Undertaker --

-- and I ruined a *FRIENDSHIP* stopping the "mystery vandal" --

-- but all I'm doing is trying to *MAKE UP* for my mistakes. That's not being a *SUPER HERO* --

-- that's just trying to HELP OUT...

-- SWEPT THROUGH THE **PARTLY-OCCUPIED** APARTMENT BUILDING, BECOMING AN **OUT-OF-CONTROL BLAZE** IN MERE MINUTES.

FIREFIGHTERS ARE BATTLING THE BLAZE NOW, AND WE HAVE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT **AIDING** IN RESCUE ATTEMPTS --

-- IS **SPIDER-MAN**, THE T.V.-ENTERTAINER TURNED-SUPER-HERO --

I-I'M S-SCARED...

TRY NOT TO ***WORRY***, KID -- THINK OF IT AS THE WORLD'S BEST ***ROLLER-COASTER-RIDE!*** WE'LL GET YOU TO THOSE NICE ***FIREMEN*** DOWN THERE --

-- AND THEY'LL LET YOUR ***MOM*** KNOW WHERE YOU ARE! YOU MIGHT EVEN GET TO WEAR ONE OF THEIR ***HELMETS***, IF YOU ASK NICE!

OKAY?

FOLX

MARVEL

O-OKAY...

SPIDER-MAN!

SPIDER-MAN -- OVER HERE!

FOR PETE'S SAKES, FOLKS, NOT NOW --

"-- THERE'S PEOPLE IN *TROUBLE* UP THERE!"

LOOKS LIKE SPIDER-MAN GOT THE LAST OF THE TENANTS OUT, AND --

AAH!

MARTY!

MARTY!

DON'T WORRY --

THWIP

--I'VE GOT HIM!

SPIDER-MAN!

OUR VIEWERS WANT TO KNOW WHY YOU'VE TURNED YOUR BACK ON YOUR *T.V. CAREER* --

-- WHY YOU'VE DEVOTED YOURSELF TO *STOPPING CRIMES* AND *SAVING PEOPLE!* WHAT WORDS DO YOU HAVE FOR --

THANKS, SPIDER-MAN!

THINK NOTHING OF IT, FELLA.

TALK TO THE *FIREMEN*, FOLKS!

THEY'RE THE ONES PUTTING THEIR *LIVES* ON THE LINE *EVERY DAY!*

BUT --

WAIT --

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S *NEWS!*

I watch until I'm sure everything's under CONTROL, and they don't NEED me any more.

Why do I DO it?

Because I DIDN'T do it once, and the man who was like a father to me DIED because of it.

Because I let PRIDE blind me to my responsibilities --

-- and a lifetime of MAKING UP for it won't be GOOD enough.

I'm NOT a super hero. I'm just a kid with a little something EXTRA.

Not ENOUGH extra, either --

-- or life wouldn't be so HARD for the people AROUND me..

HI, AUNT MAY. I FINISHED UP AT THE *LIBRARY*, AND --

CARRY THE *THREE*, SUBTRACT... Hmm.

MAYBE IF WE EAT MORE *PASTA*...

WHAT'S *WRONG*, AUNT MAY?

IT'S *NOTHING*, PETER. JUST SOME BORING ARITHMETIC.

IT'S NOT NOTHING. YOU'RE TRYING TO REWORK THE *HOUSEHOLD BUDGET* BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY SINCE I --

-- SINCE *UNCLE BEN* DIED, RIGHT?

IT'LL BE *FINE*, PETER. WE CAN MANAGE.

WELL, DON'T WORRY ABOUT *ME*, PRETTY LADY --

-- YOU KNOW *MACARONI AND CHEESE* IS MY FAVORITE *ANYWAY!*

I'M GOING UP TO MY ROOM TO *STUDY*.

HOLLER IF YOU NEED ANY *DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS* DONE, OKAY?

YOU'RE A *GOOD BOY*, PETER.

Yeah, RIGHT.

A good boy who could've stopped your HUSBAND from getting killed, but DIDN'T.

A good boy who doesn't help put FOOD on the table, or MONEY in the bank.

-- BACK, WITH MORE OF "IT'S AMAZING," THE T.V. SHOW THAT SHOWS YOU WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THIS AMAZING WORLD OF OURS!

NEXT UP, WE HAVE EXCLUSIVE FOOTAGE, TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT CAMERAS --

-- OF THE MIGHTY THOR, AIDING THE ARMY'S TESTS OF AN EXPERIMENTAL ANTI-MISSILE DEFENSE --

Now THERE'S a super hero.

Super heroes are STRONG and brave and NOBLE --

-- they don't have FRAIL AUNTS and MONEY TROUBLES, and they're not outcasts at SCHOOL --

-- and they don't have PHYSICS HOMEWORK --

♫ TE-TUM-TUM, ANYONE ELSE BUT ME... ♫

Hm?

It's Aunt May.

♫ ...DON'T SIT UNDER THE APPLE TREE WITH ANYONE ELSE BUT ME... ♫

She sounds so happy, so CAREFREE...

...even though I know she's got to be WORRIED SICK about our money troubles. And I can't even --

-- Aw, who am I kidding?

I CAN do something about our money troubles, I just don't WANT to. But I've got to. I've gotta just BITE the bullet --

-- and DO it.

TAP TAP

WHAT IN--?

SPIDER-MAN?!

MAXIE.

Maxie Shiffman's my agent -- or was. He's been wanting me to go back on T.V. --

-- rake in some of the money my FAME could bring me.

I've been telling him that I'm not INTERESTED, that I don't want to do it.

SO. YOU READY?

I'M READY.

DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD. IF THIS IS A DREAM, I DON'T WANNA WAKE UP YET.

DOUG? DOUG, IT'S MAXIE! NO, I'M NOT CALLING ABOUT THAT, THIS IS SOMETHING ELSE.

TRUST ME, DOUG --

"-- YOU'RE GONNA LOVE THIS..."

YES, SIR -- YOU'RE LOOKIN' AT A MAN WITH THE HOTTEST TICKETS IN TOWN --

-- TICKETS TO SEE SPIDER-MAN LIVE ON "IT'S AMAZING," TONIGHT!

YOU KNOW, FLASH, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE "IT'S AMAZING"...

AND YOU KNOW I'D LOVE TO TAKE YOU, SALLY, BUT --

-- BUT HE ASKED ME, WEEKS AGO. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, FLASH?

MAN, LIZ! BACK WHEN MY DAD GOT ME THESE TICKETS, I HAD NO IDEA SPIDEY WAS GONNA BE ON! BACK WHEN THE SHOW WAS SCHEDULED --

"-- ALL THEY HAD FOR A HEADLINER WAS SOME DUMB *ASTRONAUT*--!"

WHAT DO YOU *MEAN*, YOU'RE BUMPING MY SON JOHN FROM YOUR SHOW TONIGHT?! THIS HAS BEEN SET FOR *WEEKS!*

I'M SORRY, Mr. JAMESON, BUT WE HAD A LAST-MINUTE OPPORTUNITY TO SIGN UP *SPIDER-MAN*, AND --

SPIDER-MAN? BAH!

WHO NEEDS SOME *GLORIFIED ACROBAT* WHEN YOU'VE GOT *JOHN JAMESON*, THE POINT MAN FOR AMERICA'S EXPLORATION OF OUTER SPACE?!

IF THIS IS YOUR IDEA OF *RESPONSIBLE COVERAGE* --

-- THEN THE DAILY BUGLE MAY HAVE TO *RETHINK* ITS ENTERTAINMENT PRIORITIES --

EASY, Mr. JAMESON --

-- WE DON'T WANT YOUR PAPER *MAD* AT US, BUT WE HAVE TO THINK OF OUR *RATINGS*.

WE'LL TRY TO WORK YOUR SON IN IF WE --

HE'S HERE! HE'S *HERE!*

Oh! YOU'LL HAVE TO *EXCUSE* ME, Mr. JAMESON --

"-- BUT I'VE GOT *ANOTHER MEETING.*"

WHAT? OF ALL THE UNMITIGATED--?!

I'M *HONORED*, SPIDER-MAN --

-- HONORED AND THRILLED TO FINALLY BE SHAKING THE HAND OF NEW YORK'S *NEWEST* AND *BRIGHTEST SUPER HERO!*

HEY, NOW -- *WAIT* A MINUTE.

I'M NO SUPER HERO -- THE *FANTASTIC FOUR, THOR, CAPTAIN AMERICA* BACK IN THE OLD DAYS, *THOSE* GUYS ARE SUPER HEROES --

-- ME, I'M JUST A GUY WHO DOES SOME TRICKS. BUT I'M *NOTHING* COMPARED TO THEM.

HE SAVES *LIVES*, HE CATCHES *CROOKS*, AND HE'S *MODEST*, TOO! WILL WONDERS NEVER *CEASE?*

SPIDEY -- CAN I *CALL* YOU SPIDEY? -- I'VE JUST *GOT* TO HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH FOR MY LITTLE BOY--!

BAH! FLASHY-PANTS SPOTLIGHT-STEALING *PUBLICITY HOUND--!*

Huh? WHO'S *THAT?*

NOBODY *YOU'LL* EVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT. C'MON, SPIDEY --

-- THERE'S SOMEONE I WANT YOU TO *MEET!*

SPIDER-MAN, SAY HELLO TO *SUPERCHARGER!*

NICE LOOK THERE, S.C -- THAT COLOR'S MUCH BETTER FOR YOU.

SUPER-CHARGER'S ANOTHER *CLIENT* OF MINE -- HE LITERALLY WALKED IN OFF THE STREET! WHEN I COULDN'T GET YOU, I BOOKED *HIM* ONTO THIS SHOW --

-- BUT NOW THAT I'VE GOT YOU *BOTH* -- THE *SKY'S* THE LIMIT!

HI, KID!

ER, HIYA --

-- NICE TO *MEET* YOU.

I'VE GOT BIG PLANS, SPIDEY -- *BIG PLANS!*

MOVIE DEALS, ACTION FIGURES, *TRADING CARDS* -- YOU NAME IT! BY THE TIME I'M DONE, YOU TWO'LL BE THE MOST *FAMOUS FACES* ON THE PLANET!

Maxie keeps TALKING, but I tune him out.

My SPIDER-SENSE is going off, in a low-level sort of way -- but I don't know what's CAUSING it.

Maybe it was a MISTAKE to agree to be on T.V. again. MAXIE'S all for it, but then I get the impression Maxie's got some DEBTS.

He was WAY too desperate to get me back as a client.

I guess I'll get the money for TONIGHT'S SHOW, get our bank balance up, and worry about everything else LATER.

Still, it's TEMPTING -- the thought of having SOMEONE ELSE take care of the big decisions --

-- and having money could actually make it EASIER to help others.

But I wouldn't want to cash in on fame for the wrong reasons -- make the same mistakes that got UNCLE BEN killed --

-- TELL YOU, THE PUBLIC IS *HOT* FOR SUPER-GUYS! *HOT!*

I EVEN GOT YOU PAID IN *ADVANCE* BY THE NETWORK -- THEY DON'T DO THAT FOR ANYBODY BUT THE *BIGGEST* STARS!

HEY, EITHER OF YOU EVER WANT TO OWN A *B.M.W?*

'SCUSE ME --

-- I'VE GOT A COUPLE OF THINGS I NEED TO *DO* BEFORE THE SHOW...

I pace the walls, wandering around backstage, wishing they'd get on with it. But they've got a lot of set-up to do --

-- messing around with cameras, lights and mikes, getting the BAND all tuned up --

-- letting the AUDIENCE file in, chatty and excited --

-- STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW YOU CAN TAKE THIS SO *EQUABLY*, JOHN --

-- IT'S AN *INSULT* -- A SLAP IN THE *FACE*, TO JUST SHOVE YOU OFF THE SHOW LIKE THAT--!

HONESTLY, I DON'T MIND A *BIT*. THEY'RE JUST GIVING THE PUBLIC WHAT THEY *WANT* --

-- HERE, LET'S ASK *THIS* GUY --

--WHICH WOULD *YOU* RATHER SEE, SON, A N.A.S.A. ASTRONAUT -- OR *SPIDER-MAN*?

YOU'RE *JOKING*, RIGHT?

THERE'S JUST NO *CONTEST*! SPIDER-MAN'S *MUCH* COOLER THAN SOME DOPEY *ASTRONAUT*!

SEE?

->HARRUMPH!<- I *STILL* SAY IT'S AN INSULT!

SHH!

QUIET, DAD -- IT'S *STARTING*!

-- and then finally, the band strikes up the show's THEME, and the host comes out --

GOOD *EVENING*, AMERICA -- AND WELCOME TO *"IT'S AMAZING!"*

I'M YOUR CO-HOST, *MAC SANDERS* -- AND *KAREN LITTLE* WILL BE WITH US SOON, WITH THE FIRST REPORTS OF A *NEW* SUPER HERO, A FELLA CALLED *IRON MAN!*

CLAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCLAP

AND YOU KNOW, I THINK THIS *IRON MAN* GUY SHOULD FORM A *TEAM*, LIKE THE FANTASTIC FOUR --

-- BUT HE SHOULD HOOK UP WITH *VACUUM-CLEANER MAN*, *TOASTER MAN* AND *BLENDER GIRL* TO CREATE THE *ALL-APPLIANCE SQUAD!*

HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA

EXCUSE ME.

I'LL TAKE THAT.

HEY NOW, FELLA -- ENTHUSIASM IS *COMMENDABLE*, BUT YOU CAN'T --

YES I CAN.

SHZAKK

The audience GASPS --

-- *and so do I!*

WHAT IN THE--?!

At first I think it's part of the MONOLOGUE -- something that was set up BEFOREHAND --

-- but MAXIE didn't say anything about it -- and Sanders looks like he's really HURT --

IMPRESSED YET, PEOPLE?!

MY NAME IS *SUPERCHARGER!* I'M A LIVING *BATTERY* -- I CAN ABSORB, STORE AND RELEASE *UNIMAGINABLE* AMOUNTS OF POWER!

GO AHEAD, *APPLAUD! GASP! MARVEL!* ISN'T IT *KEEN*, THE WAY I CAN DO THIS?

ISN'T IT *AMAZING?* THAT'S WHAT THIS SHOW IS *ABOUT*, ISN'T IT? JUST THINK HOW *AMAZING* IT'LL BE --

-- WHEN I KILL YOU ALL!

Oh, GREAT.

That must have been what my spider-sense was reacting to -- he's a SUPER-VILLAIN -- like that DOCTOR DOOM guy!

Cripes -- what am I gonna DO?

AH, BUT BEFORE YOU *DIE -- BEFORE* YOU DIE --

-- YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW WHY! THE LESSON WON'T *TAKE* WITHOUT SOME EXPLANATION!

KEEP *FILMING*, YOU! I KNOW THIS ISN'T GOING OUT *LIVE* --

-- BUT THIS FOOTAGE'LL PLAY ON EVERY *NEWS BROADCAST*, ON EVERY *TALK* SHOW -- AND I WANT IT SEEN!

AND YOU IN THE BACK -- YEAH, *YOU* -- DON'T BOTHER TRYING TO *ESCAPE!* I'VE *SEALED* ALL THE EXITS --

-- WELDED THEM SHUT WITH MY *WONDERFUL, FABULOUS, RATINGS-FRIENDLY SUPER POWERS!*

NO, YOU MIGHT AS WELL JUST TAKE YOUR SEATS AND *LISTEN*. YOU *HAVE* TO HEAR ME --

-- AND YOU'RE *GOING* TO.

ONCE, I WAS LIKE ALL OF *YOU* --

-- FASCINATED BY THE SUPER-POWERED CREATURES WHO'VE BEEN APPEARING -- *THE FANTASTIC FOUR, ANT-MAN, THOR...*

MY FATHER WAS A *SCIENTIST*, AND HE WAS *AGOG* AT THE IMPLICATIONS THESE BEINGS HELD FOR TECHNOLOGY, FOR BIOLOGY --

-- FOR OUR *ENTIRE CONCEPTION* OF HOW THE WORLD AND LIFE ON IT *FUNCTION!*

"HE WANTED TO SEE IF SUPER-POWERS COULD BE *INDUCED* -- AND GOD SAVE ME, I *HELPED* HIM --

"-- CLIPPING ARTICLES, AMASSING DATA, HELPING IN THE *LAB*...

"BUT SOMETHING WENT *WRONG* -- MY FATHER'S GENERATORS WEREN'T ABLE TO HANDLE THE POWER HE *DEMANDED* OF THEM!

"THERE WAS AN *EXPLOSION* --

"-- MY FATHER WAS *KILLED* --

"-- AND I ENDED UP PROVING MY FATHER *RIGHT* -- I ENDED UP WITH THIS *POWER* --

"-- THIS *AWFUL, TERRIBLE POWER!*

"THAT'S WHEN I REALIZED THE *TRUTH* -- THAT THESE SUPER-BEINGS WERE NOTHING BUT *MONSTERS -- FREAKS --*

"-- WHO BRING NOTHING BUT *DEATH, DESTRUCTION* AND *TRAGEDY* IN THEIR WAKE --

"-- AND EVEN THOUGH THIS HAPPENS *RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES* --

-- WE *EMBRACE* THESE VIOLENT FREAKS!

WE *CELEBRATE* THEM! MAKE HEROES OF THEM! AND ALL WE GET --

-- ALL WE GET --

-- IS MORE OF THEM!

MORE DEATH! MORE PAIN! MORE ANGUISH!

He's SERIOUS. He really IS going to kill everyone --

-- or at least, he's going to TRY.

He's an honest-to-gosh SUPER-VILLAIN, and what we need here --

-- is a SUPER HERO. Better yet, FOUR of 'em.

UFF!

KRAKK

So much for Supercharger's welding the DOORS shut. Now if only --

HELLO? HELLO, OPERATOR? GET ME THE BAXTER BUIL --

-- Oh, TERRIFIC.

No DIAL TONE. He's cut the lines.

Still --

-- THERE ARE OTHER WAYS TO REACH THE OUTSIDE WORLD!

KRAASSSH

I'm planning to head for the BAXTER BUILDING -- get the FANTASTIC FOUR, get somebody who can HANDLE this guy --

-- when --

NO! NO! AEEEEEEEE!

Huh?

I'M SORRY, MY DEAR.

I HONESTLY REGRET THIS IS NECESSARY --

-- BUT THE WORLD HAS TO SEE WHAT A HORROR THEY'RE TOLERATING.

IF I JUST TELL PEOPLE, THEY WON'T LISTEN -- THEY'LL JUST LAUGH ME OFF. BUT IF THERE'S A TRAGEDY --

-- MAYBE IT'LL OPEN THEIR EYES, MAYBE IT'LL MAKE THEM REALIZE WHAT'S GOING ON --

-- MAYBE THEY'LL PUT AN END TO THESE MONSTERS.

He brings his HAND back, to deliver the KILLING BLOW --

-- but --

Ah-ah, S.C.!

YOU CALL THAT *MANNERS*? YOU CALL THAT *ENTERTAINMENT*?

THIS IS A *FAMILY* SHOW!

Eh?

I can't do it. I can't just ABANDON these people to this madman.

Super-villain or NOT --

I KNOW THIS WAS YOUR BIG CHANCE TO BE ON T.V., DOLL-FACE, BUT I NEED YOU TO WAIT IN THE WINGS FOR A WHILE --

I'M *ALIVE*, Oh, GOD -- I'M *ALIVE*--!

KRAM

-- CAUSE I'VE GOT SOME *WALL-TO-WALL* REVIEWING TO DO!

-- I've got to try to stop him.

YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE HERE, SPIDER-MAN.

BUT YOU'RE NO BETTER THAN THE OTHERS, FOR ALL YOUR PIOUS MODESTY!

HOW MANY HAVE DIED BECAUSE OF YOU? HOW MANY?!

KNAK

Ouch.

LOOK, FELLA --

Is THIS what I get now? Is THIS my fate?

"You didn't save your UNCLE, pal -- so here's a bunch MORE people you can fail to save!

"And if you by some miracle save THEM --

ZKAMM

"-- we'll up the STAKES next time!" Is THAT it?

KRAK

Does it NEVER end?

-- I'M GETTING A LITTLE TIRED OF YOUR MOUTH!

THWIP

I'm just a KID. I made a MISTAKE.

But I'm trying to MAKE UP for it, okay? I'm TRYING!

GNAARH!

For a while there's energy EVERYWHERE.

THWAT

I duck, and dodge, and flip, and vault -- and it misses me by INCHES and by SECONDS --

-- and I tell myself maybe I can DO this -- maybe I'll actually BEAT this guy --

-- but NOBODY stays lucky FOREVER.

SKT

AAAAAH!

SO MUCH FOR THAT.

-- but I pull myself back from the edge, and I REALIZE something.

This isn't ABOUT my problems.

I tell myself I TRIED. But it's just TOO MUCH. It's too much weight to BEAR...

I'M SORRY, UNCLE BEN...

I'M SORRY...

C'MON, SPIDEY! DON'T LET HIM PUSH YOU *AROUND* LIKE THAT! YOU CAN *DO* IT!

YOU CAN *TAKE* 'IM! GO ON, GIVE HIM ONE FOR *ME!*

I don't know if it's Flash's FAITH in me, or just the reminder that there are PEOPLE out there --

There are people out there who need HELP, and I'm the one in a position to GIVE it to them.

That's all that really MATTERS.

HEY! HEY, *BUDDY*... I'VE GOT AN IDEA, BUT I NEED A *HAND!*

WHILE SUPERCHARGER'S SOAKING UP *JUICE* TO REPLACE WHAT HE LET OFF AT *ME*...

DON'T *WORRY*, MY VICTIMS -- REMEMBER, YOU DIE IN A *GOOD CAUSE!*

AND I'VE BUILT UP A LARGE ENOUGH CHARGE TO MAKE IT *PAINLESS* -- INSTAN-TANEOUS --

It isn't about MAKING UP for anything.

It isn't about MISTAKES, or FAME, or the PAST.

WH--?

It's about RIGHT NOW. About doing what NEEDS to be done --

OKAY, BUDDY --

WHAT?!

YOU'RE STILL--?

HIT IT!

-- for no other reason than because it's right.

Afterward, they said the sky lit up like NOON for a full minute.

I didn't see it. I was INSIDE.

I...

I...

I...

-- BROADCAST THE POWER CLEAN OUT OF HIM!

I just figure -- he's a LIVING BATTERY, right? So hook him up -- use him to POWER something -- ANYTHING --

I... WAS RIGHT...

...YOU'LL... SEE...

And then he's DOWN --

And the audience --

YAHOO! YAAAY! SPIDER-MAN! SPI-DER-MAN! WAHOO!

HE DID IT -- HE SAVED US ALL!

I DON'T KNOW -- IF IT WASN'T FOR GUYS LIKE SPIDER-MAN --

-- THERE NEVER WOULD'VE BEEN A GUY LIKE THAT SUPERWHATSIT, RIGHT--?

It doesn't take LONG, after that. I break the seals on the DOORS --

-- POLICE and PARAMEDICS arrive, to take Supercharger into custody and to treat the audience members WOUNDED by stray wreckage --

SHEESH! LOOK AT THIS PLACE! IT'S TOTALED -- THEY'RE GONNA HAVE TO REBUILD THIS STUDIO FROM THE GROUND UP --

-- IT'LL BE SO EXPENSIVE, THEY MAY NEVER GET THIS SHOW BACK ON THE AIR!

HONEST, SPIDEY, I DIDN'T KNOW!

I WAS DESPERATE FOR MONEY --

-- THERE WERE GUYS LOOKING TO BREAK MY FINGERS IF I DIDN'T PAY UP ON MY RACING LOSSES -- AND YOU WEREN'T WORKIN' WITH ME ANYMORE --

-- SO MAYBE I DID TAKE HIM ON AS A CLIENT AND MAYBE I DIDN'T LOOK INTO HIS BACKGROUND MUCH --

-- BUT HEY, HOW WAS I TO KNOW?

IT'LL BE UP TO THE POLICE TO DECIDE WHETHER YOU'RE AN ACCESSORY OR A DUPE, MAXIE --

-- BUT THERE'S ONE THING YOU'VE GOT TO DO --

-- AND THAT'S GIVE BACK THE MONEY.

WHAT?!

B-BUT IT WAS PAY OR PLAY! IT WAS -- IT --

-- I NEED THAT MONEY!

So do I, Maxie.

WE DIDN'T EXACTLY DO THE SHOW WE WERE *CONTRACTED* TO DO, DID WE?

COME ON, MAXIE -- YOU'RE THE GUY WHO *BROUGHT* SUPERCHARGER IN HERE --

-- AND IT'S JUST *WRONG* TO PROFIT OFF THIS KIND OF DESTRUCTION. GIVE THE MONEY BACK -- LET THEM USE IT TO *REBUILD*...

SIGH

OKAY, *OKAY*. I'LL GIVE IT BACK...

LISTEN TO HIM!

Oh, *THERE* YOU ARE, DAD!

LOOK, IT'S *DANGEROUS* AROUND HERE -- THERE ARE *SUPPORT PILLARS* SHATTERED, AND THE CEILING COULD COME DOWN AT ANY MOMENT.

WE'D BETTER GET YOU *OUT* OF HERE...

WHO DOES HE THINK HE'S *FOOLING*? TRYING TO PASS HIMSELF OFF AS *BETTER* THAN NORMAL PEOPLE, AS SOME KIND OF *SAINT!*

WELL, HE DOESN'T *FOOL* ME! IT'S LIKE I'VE BEEN SAYING ALL ALONG -- HE'S A *BAD INFLUENCE* -- A DANGEROUS *VIGILANTE* --

Oh, DAD THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU'VE BEEN SAYING AT *ALL*--!

I'LL *SHOW* HIM --

"-- I'LL SHOW HIM GOOD--!"

When Uncle Ben died, I learned a lesson -- with GREAT POWER comes GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.

But I didn't know what it MEANT. Now I DO.

Even if he HADN'T died, I'd STILL have these powers --

-- and I'd still have the RESPONSIBILITY.

I CAN help. So I SHOULD. That's all there is TO it.

Maybe I DON'T feel like a super hero all the time, but who's to say what a super hero FEELS like?

Maybe even the FANTASTIC FOUR have a problem or two.

Okay, so maybe I still need MONEY, but I can find a way.

I'm a SUPER HERO, right? And that's what super heroes do.

They find a WAY...

THE END

A SPIDER-MAN SPECIAL EVENT

AMAZING FANTASY #15, the final issue of a short-lived anthology series, introduced the world to a new and unique super hero: the amazing Spider-Man!

Months later, by popular demand, **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1,** the first issue of the wall-crawling wonder's own ongoing series, hit the stands, beginning a long and successful career for the young web-slinger.

Here now, for the first time, in this three-issue limited series, you will learn what happened in between those two landmark issues...and experience the seminal events that shaped a guilt-ridden young man into a true hero.

[redacted]